

**Councillors Shamie, Peart, Gallery back for 2nd terms**

## Christina Smith acclaimed as mayor

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

With no other mayoral candidates reported at the deadline for council nominations at 4:30 pm Friday, October 1, Mayor Christina Smith was confirmed in the position for another term. As a result, no city-wide election will take place in Westmount Sunday, November 7.

Also elected by acclamation were three incumbent councillors – Jeff Shamie (District 3), Conrad Peart (District 4) and Mary Gallery (District 6).

“I expect a swearing-in will take place as soon as possible,” Mayor Smith said. On p. 6, she talks about the past four years as

well as her plan for going forward.

Given retirements, there will at least three new councillors on the next council and there are two sitting councillors fighting races.

District elections are scheduled in the five contested districts, 1, 2, 5, 7 and 8, as follows:

**District 1:** Antonio D’Amico, Marcy Katz, Jane Silverstone Segal. *Incumbent Anitra Bostock is running in District 5.*

**District 2:** Elisabeth Roux, Paola Samuel. *Incumbent Philip Cutler did not file for a third term.*

**District 5:** Anitra Bostock, Liz McCallum. *Incumbent Marina Brzeski is a not seeking a second term.*

**District 7:** Matt Aronson, Neil Hopley. *Incumbent Cynthia Lulham is retiring from council after 25 years.*

**District 8:** Kathleen Kez (incumbent), Michael Mossop.

Antonio D’Amico  
runs again in District 1 –  
See p. 12

*If this doesn’t say ‘fall,’ what would?*



Angelica Fabri and Barry, her shiba inu, were admiring the large display of pumpkins September 30 outside Les 5 Saisons on Greene Ave. and de Maisonneuve. The impressive collection is composed of gourds of all shapes and sizes, from warty pimpled pumpkins to classic orange, all under the watchful eye of a happy, smiling, not-so-scary scarecrow.

PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.

**Still has many improvements in mind for District 8**

## Kez runs on record and more work for ‘unique’ district

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Despite pandemic challenges in Westmount during her first term on city council, Councillor Kathleen Kez last week listed a number of “improvements” in District 8 since her election along with a number of others she is seeking in a second mandate now that she has learned how the city works.

“Things can move very slowly at the municipal level,” she said. “And there’s still lots to do and a number of improvements to see through in our unique district to improve our quality of life and move forward.”

The district faces uncertainty in the coming years with new development projects to come on St. Catherine and eventually the Tupper parking lots, she told the *Indepen-* continued on p. 12



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## Strong winds topple tree, branches

Heavy winds brought down a large tree and a number of branches September 24 in Westmount, according to Public Security. The tree was in King George (Murray) Park on the edge of Westmount Ave. between Carleton and Murray Hill. The city's tree crew was called to take it down. The tree was reported to be rotten.

A large branch on Montrose near Mount Pleasant fell on two parked cars while a limb fell on the roof of a doorway on Belmont Ave. near Belmont Cresc. Another large branch was reported down on Kensington just south of de Maison-neuve.

## Off-leash dogs ticketed in Summit Woods

Tickets for \$225 were issued for three dogs spotted off leash in Summit Woods September 28, Public Security officials said. The first two were given to two Montreal residents at 11:12 am while the third went to a Westmount resident reported to have not even had a leash with him and was recognized by patrollers as a previous offender.

## Noisy parties bring out Public Security

Public safety officers were called to two homes Sunday night, September 26, for loud parties disturbing the neighbourhood, department officials said.

At one on Victoria south of Westmount Ave., officers could hear a DJ and music coming from the backyard as well as yelling. The host stated he was having a birthday party and was warned to bring guests inside.

When officers were called back almost an hour later, the party was still on-going at which time the guests departed and the host was issued a ticket for \$125.

## Water leak closes Lansdowne at Sherbrooke, St. Catherine

A water leak at Lansdowne and de Maison-neuve overnight September 27-28 took until 3 pm to finish the work, Public Security officials said.

When officers were called to the scene by 911 at 12:24 am on the 28th, they found the water coming out of the pavement and threatening the garage at the apartment building at 300 Lansdowne. A check of the building found

no water had entered.

Lansdowne was closed at Sherbrooke and St. Catherine. The city's water crew began efforts to find and turn off the valve in the street to stem the flow.

Four parked vehicles had to be moved. Excavation then began to repair the damage and a boil-water advisory was put into effect.

## Skunk on York St.

A man saw a skunk on York St. between Prince Albert and St. Catherine on September 30 at around 8 pm. He retreated north up the alley that runs from that street to de Maison-neuve and was not sprayed.



The alley between York and de Maison-neuve on October 4. The skunk was behind the telephone pole at right.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

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Dodge on April real estate transfers, p. 22

Police Report, p. 26

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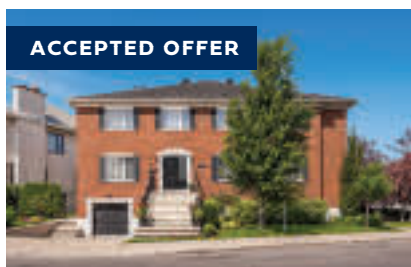
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Mayor Smith acclaimed, outlines plan for another term

# Staying on course while exploring new opportunities

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Mayor Christina Smith handed in her nomination papers for another term as the city's chief executive officer September 20, the first day Westmount's electoral returning office was open to accept candidate appointments.

Looking ahead to another four years, the *Independent* asked her about her platform and why she sought re-election given her concerns expressed over the increase in abusive emails elected officials have been receiving as well as misinformation on social media regarding some local issues.

"Because despite the relatively small number of these emails and the heightened concerns that have broken out – probably over COVID anxiety – I still believe in public service and the need to understand people's concerns," she replied.

"There is also much more to do in Westmount," she added. This includes the urgent need for renewal of infrastructure, municipal buildings and parks, as well as "residents' expectations of excellent services," she contended.

So far, despite the challenges of working in pandemic conditions, "we have trans-

formed how the snow is removed," she said, introduced new outdoor activities and are in the process of updating Urban Planning by-law processes.

"There is also the development of the whole southeast sector and the Tupper parking lots to consider, on which we need to consult the broader population."

### Looking at different options

In terms of infrastructure renewal, she said, the city will be looking at different ways to finance these costly projects. This is a special concern with the upcoming reconstruction of The Boulevard, an arterial route serving many non-Westmounters. "In this case, we might have to go to borrowing" which the city has long avoided doing whenever possible.

As for Westmount Park, she said, "people are stressed about possible changes. But I want to emphasize that Westmount Park will stay Westmount Park but some of it is broken, much of which is driven by underground hydro and water work.

"I understand the stress expressed by some people who may have the park as their only outdoor space. I get it. If COVID has taught me anything," she added, "it's

that people don't like change."

### New partnerships

The pandemic has also brought home the value of partnering with other organizations as the city has been doing with the Contactivity seniors' centre and its many programs aimed at helping seniors use technology, Mayor Smith said. "Their work has been incredible."

In terms of building community and looking at innovative ways to upgrade city services, she said, the city is looking at opportunities to partner with Dawson and Marianopolis. As one potential partner, "we met with the new director general of Marianopolis, which has a full-sized soccer field, gym and can provide parking."

Asked if she was still volunteering as a parent soccer coach in the city's Sports and Recreation program, Mayor Smith said her daughter's soccer ability had "exceeded my coaching ability." Her daughter now plays inter-city competitive soccer with the Westmount Soccer Club.

"While it's easy to criticize in an era of uncertainty," she explained, "I'm very proud of how the administration handled the pandemic and worked hard to provide services such as the new outdoor ones, the refrigerated rink and toboggan run."

Now it's time, however, to move on to continue some of the projects such as "Imagine Westmount 2040," launched before the COVID lockdowns, and to provide added incentive to propel the city forward on its current course for the future.

After graduating from Bishop's University in political science, Mayor Smith applied for a variety of parliamentary jobs in Ottawa, ultimately becoming political advisor to Stéphane Dion, then minister of intergovernmental affairs. She then worked for Coca Cola, taking three years off to look after her young children before being elected as District 5 councillor in 2013.



Mayor Christina Smith sat in the mayor's chair at Westmount city hall's council chamber on October 1, shortly before the deadline for submitting nominations for mayor and the city council seats. Christina Smith was the only candidate at that time and was soon acclaimed.

PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.



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*People working from home – a temporary uptick?*

# Westmount's landfill amounts decline, total 2020 waste up

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The total amount of waste material generated in Westmount in 2020 over 2019 rose slightly but is on the decline from 2017 and 2018, Councillor Marina Brzeski told the council meeting during question period September 9.

The slight increase last year to 10,626 tonnes over 9,867 in 2019 reflects the effects of COVID when offices were closed and many people worked from home, she explained. But its decrease from other years "is a pretty good story."

The total amount of waste sent to landfill as garbage was 39 percent, meaning that 61 percent was diverted from landfill to recycling, the composting of organics and other areas, she said. The result means that Westmount has a good start on meeting Montreal objectives of recuperating 70 percent by 2025 and by 85 percent by 2030.

The figures she quoted came from the annual scorecard presented annually by the Montreal agglomeration for its member municipalities, although the percentages as listed appeared slightly inconsistent with the figures. The methodology

**Table showing annual results for Westmount as recorded by the Montreal agglomeration in annual scorecards:**

Tonnes	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total waste generated	12,185	11,286	9,867	10,626
Landfill/garbage	5,671	5,144	4,748	4,629
Compost	2,741	2,565	1,982	2,676
Recycling	2,124	2,134	2,089	2,279

being used is changing for 2021 but those quoted are based on the previous methodology for comparative purposes. See detailed table above.

"Given the concern expressed by Canadians that the climate crisis is at the top of their list, what were the amounts of compost, recycling and garbage collected in Westmount for the four previous years?" Roger Jochym of Lewis Ave. had asked.

He also wanted to know what the future targets were and what incentives the city has in place to achieve these goals.

Among these are:

- Increase compost collection services to all dwellings including apartments;

- Expand the collection of recycling and composting in outdoor spaces such as parks;
- Add collection bins for specific recyclable items such as clothing and masks;
- Add collections of bulky items (new this year) and household hazardous materials;
- Remove and reduce the use of single-use items in city buildings and offer alternatives such as a water truck in parks;
- Embark on education campaigns and door-to-door evaluations.

*Baruch: Mitigation 'attempts have failed miserably'*

## Dog-run dust 'rises' again at Sept. 20 meeting

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Complaints about the material used in city dog runs – particularly at King George (Murray) Park – resurfaced at the council meeting September 20, harking back to pre-pandemic concerns about dust rising from the granite/sand mix.

While the city had had samples laboratory-tested for safety and had explored other solutions, it resorted to applying a spray-on dust reducer used at equestrian competitions.

"The attempts have failed miserably," stated Claudia Baruch of The Boulevard during the recent council question period. Considering upcoming park projects. When will a new choice of ground cover be found for "the unhealthy and unsanitary state of our dog parks?" she asked.

"I know you don't like the material," Mayor Christina Smith replied.

### Health risks 'low'

She cited her own discussions with Baruch along with many held at council meetings and reminded Baruch that the city had provided her with a copy of the lab analysis report that found the health risks to human beings and dogs from inhaling the silica dust to be "low" (see story April 16, 2019, p. 1).

The city had again sprayed the runs this spring (June 8) "and from what I've heard the spraying did help with dust abatement," the mayor said. She would speak again, however, with Public Works about the issue.

While the same material is used on all the city dog runs, the issue had been described as more prevalent at Murray Park because of the way the wind circles around on the hill.

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## COUNCILLORS SHOULD LIVE IN THEIR DISTRICTS

“To be, or not to be” resident of the district that they want to represent, “that is the question.”

Why don’t council candidates have to live in the districts they seek to represent? It is imperative that the candidate knows the people and knows the area that they are about to represent. It’s really vital that the voters in the district and the representatives in the district all live in the same place.

It seems the Westmount council still has either very archaic rules or very (“my club”) convenient rules to have their own people in their circle.

How is it possible that candidates, in 2021, are still running for districts where they are not residents? It should be a sign of respect or just basic decency to be resident of the district you are aspiring to represent.

If there are not local candidates, so be it. If this situation would arise, many would jump to the position. “Lack of interest or candidates” is not an excuse to have a non-district resident as candidate or councillor.

Many people have questioned this practice at other political levels, however, the Westmount council should be an oasis, exempt of opportunists.

To the councillors, please “blink” if you have been forced to take free lunches and

attend endless meetings. You will be immediately rescued/released from your district as a public servant where your non-voluntary work (because you have been forced to receive a salary) has been an endless task hearing the concerns and worries of the residents of your district; where you have been forced to be accountable.

And even worse, you have been forced to keep a record, clear statistics, of the residents who have contacted you and the solutions given to their problems. What a task!

Nobody should be forced to do any unwilling activity, like being an active/assertive/accountable district councillor.

DIANA HERNANDEZ, ST. CATHERINE ST.

## BUSY VIC VILLAGE INTERSECTION NEEDS ... SOMETHING

On September 28, I got in a fight with a driver who failed to stop at the intersection of Victoria and Somerville as I walked back across the crosswalk to the Visual Arts Centre where I work.

I slapped his car twice because his response was dismissive. We exchanged heated words and I couldn’t hold myself back. He was more worried about his car than my safety.

In fact, amazingly, he wished me to be hit by a car the next time I crossed a street. Clearly, I had touched a nerve...and he did too. I just can’t sit back and watch this in-

tersection become a highway for cars and a potential accident site.

Victoria village is a quiet little place where everything is at your disposal on foot. People are on those sidewalks a lot. Young and old alike use these crosswalks constantly. The Visual Arts Centre is a hub for the neighbourhood and beyond. The city’s sad attempt to help by adding blinking stop signs isn’t working...

The next day, I had the almost exact same experience but this time with a cop car. I decided slapping this car would not be a good idea so instead I made them wait while I spoke exasperatedly through my mask while they held up traffic. They were obviously not expecting me to stop them to tell them they almost ran me over. One police officer did make a good point, everyone looks right towards Somerville when travelling southbound on Victoria before making the stop. Nobody looks left because the only thing coming is a human being and not a car.

Traffic lights are not the answer, they just create congestion and exhaust. Maybe a raised street level crossing so you know you’re entering a pedestrian-friendly zone. Whatever happens, it should happen soon.

LILY LANKEN, VICTORIA AVE.

## WHY NOT PRINCE ALBERT PARK?

While the city is proposing to spend millions reconfiguring the beautiful Westmount Park, it appears to have abandoned the much-used Prince Albert Park.

For several years, there has been almost no grass in the park, weeds are prolific, drainage is terrible. City vehicles drive daily over the would-be grass area and along the path (which is not wide enough for a vehicle) destroying what grass there is, leaving compacted ruts and putting park users at risk.

A playground section of the park was fenced off for many months, and now some of the path as well as a portion of the “playing field” is fenced off for a construction project at a private residence.

In winter, the wonderful hockey rink is well maintained, but snow from and around the rink is piled into the rest of the park, making it virtually unusable.

I hope some of the millions that seem to be available for park improvement can be directed towards our abandoned park.

BETSY MITCHELL, WINDSOR AVE.

## UNPLEASANT VIEW

This (top right) has been the view from our house at 425 Wood for the last six months.

Shouldn’t the city require that out-houses be placed in the lanes at the back of houses, so as not to spoil the look of our



streets and gardens?

JEAN DE BRABANT, WOOD AVE.

## PROTECT PEOPLE, PROPERTY FROM CITY TREE

On September 23, our doorbell rang, at the door were two pedestrians who mentioned that a branch from a tree on our front yard had broken off and landed on the hood of a parked car as they were walking by. The branch dented the hood but no one was hurt. We contacted Westmount Public Security who came and wrote up a report.

We have in the past told the city about issues with this tree. At one point, it hired a third party to come and install a retaining wire between branches as the tree was splitting apart. In the past, we have told the city about other branches falling and exposed other issues, including the fact this tree has caused material damages to our property. We even hired a specialized engineer who produced a report. The city’s answer is and I quote “... ..” protocol in your situation *continued on p. 9*

## Editor’s note

## Letters to the editor policy for end of election period

In keeping with our practice during the previous three municipal election campaigns, letters to the editor published in our last issue (November 2) before the November 7 election that mention a candidate *will be shown* to that candidate for possible rebuttal in the same issue. There will be no second “right of reply” to this possible reply. – DP

# WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

*We are Westmount*

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

would be to complete a legal claim with our Legal Services department.”

Interesting to see that our city seems to care more about a tree than both threat to human life and damage to an immovable for which it collects taxes to pay for the upkeep of a dangerous tree!

VINCENT BRIE, SHERBROOKE ST.

### SAVE THE GRASS – EAT BETTER

So, the synthetic turf lobby is back with the same unsupported arguments. Let's follow the facts.

In the September 21 *Independent* (p. 27), the writer claimed that today's synthetic turf can now be regarded as environmentally sustainable. This is false.

Today's product is undoubtedly better than that of a decade ago, but creation of a synthetic turf field requires the destruction of over an acre of natural field brimming with biodiversity – one that is alive with microorganisms, producing oxygen while reducing surrounding air temperature. Synthetic turf would kill the field. This is not environmentally friendly, period.

Yes, we are obese and have been for some time. Canada ranks very high among industrialized nations. In comparison, Korea scores as one of the least obese even

though phys. ed. and sports among youth is not emphasized there, nor is it a priority in educational spending. So why are their children not obese? Simply put: a far more healthy diet. Are we in contrast telling our kids they can just work off whatever they eat?

And yes, we do live in an age of anxiety with its devastating impact on youth. Prior to COVID, surveys reported that the number one concern among youth was climate change – a melting planet. Do we now expect the destruction of a living field to be a good step for our earth's climate? Will our kids be proud of our decision? Something is seriously amiss here.

I do understand that parents are also increasingly stressed out. We live in a privileged community. Parents want the best for their kids. They try to shelter them from as many difficulties as they can. Let's face it. Wet fields, cancelled games, using other fields for practice, a shorter season that necessitates finding alternative sports are all life experiences that enhance our kids' life skills of coping and adapting to challenges.

There must be more creative ways to help our children. Let's exercise our privilege for the positive by retaining our won-

## RIP Brian McGuigan

I was sad to learn that the *Independent's* longtime client, real estate broker Brian McGuigan, died September 22.

In October 2006, I sold my first full page advertisement ever to Brian, his wife Joan and son Tim when they were at their firm McGuigan Pepin. (They are now at Royal LePage Heritage). I was working on our first newspaper, *Vivva Montreal*. (In the ad, the Westmount house prices went from \$585,000 to \$2 million.) The McGuigans continued on

as advertisers into the *Independent* and have been excellent clients up to the present day.

I see from his obituary that he was a great golfer. I understand more now how patient he must have had to be in order to play a round once with me. He had a sense of humour and of fun, and he will be missed. My condolences to Joan and Tim, and to his other family members and friends.

– David Price, editor

derful natural grass field at the WAG (Westmount Athletic Grounds).

DENIS BIRO, BURTON AVE.

### SCHOOL BOARD VOTING WOES

I and most people that I know did not receive the notification for the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) elections.

I tried to vote in the advance poll on September 19 at Westmount High. For the federal election, if one is not on the list, one is permitted to vote after showing a driver's licence and a hydro bill.

I find it ludicrous that I presented these same documents on September 19 at the EMSB advanced poll and I was NOT per-

mitted to vote. I did ask the returning officer how one gets on the voters' list, but did not receive an answer. I was informed that I may vote in the next election.

It was also disturbing to see that the voting took place on the second floor at the end of a corridor. This arrangement was completely inconsiderate of the residents of Manoir Westmount and Place Kensington and others with mobility issues. There was an entrance further along from the "main" entrance where there was an elevator, but the official monitoring the entrance failed to mention it to these folks.

SORYL ROSENBERG,  
CÔTE ST. ANTOINE RD.

<b>Westmount</b>  <b>\$3,498,000</b> 59 CH. DE LAVIGNE, WESTMOUNT	<b>L'ÎLE-BIARD</b>  <b>\$5,500,000</b> 2159 CH. DU BORD-DU-LAC, L'ÎLE-BIARD	<b>L'ÎLE-CADIEUX</b>  <b>\$2,800,000</b> 52 CH. DE L'ÎLE, L'ÎLE-CADIEUX	<b>Saint-Laurent</b>  <b>\$975,000</b> 940 RUE CARDINAL SAINT-LAURENT	<b>CDN</b>  <b>\$855,000</b> 5020 AV. POWELL, CÔTE-DES-NEIGES	<b>Kirkland</b>  <b>\$1,399,000</b> 84 RUE DU CHÂTEAU-KIRKLAND	<b>L'ÎLE-BIARD</b>  <b>\$2,150,000</b> 1056 RUE STE-FAMILLE, L'ÎLE-BIARD	<b>BROSSARD</b>  <b>\$1,098,000</b> 1890 RUE RIGAUD, BROSSARD
<b>KIRKLAND</b>  <b>\$899,000</b> 40 RUE HAENDEL, KIRKLAND	<b>Downtown</b>  <b>\$859,000</b> <b>\$389,000</b> 1400 Boul. Rene-Levesque #1009 #1101, Ville-Marie	 <b>\$785,000</b> 1200 RUE CRESCENT #208 VILLE-MARIE	 <b>\$498,000</b> 1050 Rue Drummond #2202 Ville-Marie	 <b>\$2,598,800</b> 1188 AV. UNION #PH3907 VILLE-MARIE	 <b>\$420,000</b> <b>\$879,000</b> <b>\$950,000</b> 1288 RUE ST-ANTOINE O #5010 #4705 #3904, Ville-Marie	 <b>\$519,000</b> 1288 Av. des Canadiens-de-Montreal #2415, Ville-Marie	 <b>\$1,600,000</b> 1450 Boul. Rene-Levesque #3405, Ville-Marie
<b>Downtown</b>  <b>\$899,000</b> 1188 RUE ST-ANTOINE O #1902, Ville-Marie	 <b>\$599,000</b> 1400 Boul. Rene-Levesque # 805, Ville-Marie	 <b>\$649,000</b> 1288 RUE ST-ANTOINE O #1703	 <b>\$799,000</b> 1288 Av. des Canadiens-de-Montreal #2706, Ville-Marie	<b>Griffintown</b>  <b>\$439,000</b> 195 Rue Peel #1606 Griffintown	<b>Rosemont</b>  <b>\$569,000</b> 2370 - 2372 RUE BELANGER	<b>Lasalle</b>  <b>\$449,000</b> 7000 RUE ALLARD #265 LASALLE	<b>Mont-Royal</b>  <b>\$385,000</b> 2335 CH. MANILLA #704 MONT-ROYAL
<div> <b>Mansfield</b>            In Montreal's Downtown            Types of units: Studios, 1-3 Bedrooms            Occupancy: 2004         </div>							
<div> <b>Sherbrooke St</b>            Downtown Montreal         </div>							
<div> <b>Vincent Yuan</b>            514-826-4288         </div> <div> <b>Qiang (Ken) Zhong</b>            514-979-0931         </div>							
<div> <b>RE/MAX</b>            Facebook Sina Weibo Instagram YouTube Juwai.com TikTok Wechat         </div> <div> <b>List your property with us!</b>            #1 Re/Max Asian Broker in Canada 2018&amp;2019            2020 TOP 10 Individual in Quebec         </div>							



# LETTERS IN SUPPORT OF *INDIE'S* ACCESS TO REAL ESTATE INFORMATION

We have asked the city for monthly access to Westmount real estate transactions/transfers (see September 21, p. 8). Mayor Christina Smith's "recommendation to council and direction to the administration will be that the sale of properties (without names) that generate transfer duties should be tabled under section 6 at the public council meeting and made accessible to all" (September 28, p. 7).

Given that we have yet to see an example of this output, that technicalities regarding the Cities and Towns Act remain, and that personnel at the city can always change, we will keep publishing letters of in support of our position and of the mayor's recommendation. You can write to me at:

editor@westmountindependent.com.

I also received one not-for-publication email from someone who opposes the publication of buyers *and* sellers' names in the paper. (We no longer publish the former out of choice.) I am not sure if she wants municipalities to be barred from sharing this information, or newspapers to choose not to do so, but, regardless, I share this point of view for the record.

Thank you to each and every one of you.

– David Price, editor

## RIGHT TO INFORMATION MEANINGLESS IF INFO NOT ACCESSIBLE

I am a regular reader of your editorials and I receive a lot of joy from my local paper. I felt compelled to show my support after reading your candid editorial "Is the city of Westmount a democracy or a bureaucracy?"

I am the kind of person who scrolls through real estate websites just for fun. My favourite articles in the *Independent* are the ones that showcase old estates, unveiling a story weaved through time by uncovering their history. So naturally, your impediment frustrates me.

More so, I feel that you make an important point about our institutions' responsibility towards us, and our duty as citizens to hold our institutions responsible. The right to information is meaningless if that information is not accessible.

Keep up the good fight!

GABRIELLE PEREQUE, GROSVENOR AVE.

## STAY YOUR COURSE

I read your note about the Westmount administration not allowing your paper to continue the service of info of property transfers.

I am in agreement with you and I will also add that most of these folks who have been voted in to "represent" the citizens of Westmount leave a lot to be desired. They

are not consistent in their engagement to serve the best interests and address important issues of our community.

I have many examples of this. One of these was the excessive noise this year from small tourism planes and helicopters flying over Montreal downtown and Westmount, often every five minutes and sometimes very late in the evenings, and on some occasions at 3 and 4 am.

No interest [from the city of Westmount].

Fortunately, the *Gazette* took an interest and wrote a serious piece that finally helped.

I brought up the fact that it was excessively noisy, as well as a threat to public safety should any plane or helicopter have any mechanical problems. It seems that it was not important. However, a small plane did crash last Saturday on St. Helen's Island near the site of the Osheaga music festival, I believe killing one person on board. These accidents do happen, unfortunately. No cities should allow such tourism planes and helicopters to fly over their downtowns for joy rides.

I can go on and on, but it is too frustrating to spend so much time and energy even discussing things with our Westmount administration, including all the elected representatives. They run for office, but we the citizens have to do the pushing on any serious community issues, such as this one.

There is something wrong with this picture.

An election is coming up and perhaps we can let all these folks know that we care, *and* we vote, *and* we are not very happy just paying taxes. We love Westmount and we are all interested in making our city a decent, responsible and responsive one for everyone to enjoy. They rarely respond with any kind of resolve.

Have a great day and stay your course.

ALDO MAZZA

## WHY IS THIS EVEN AN ISSUE?

I read with interest your note to readers in the September 21 issue of the *Westmount Independent* (p. 8).

I believe that the information as outlined in your article should absolutely be made available to the paper and to the people of Westmount. Clearly someone has taken it upon themselves to keep this information under wraps and decided to give the *Independent* a hard time in publishing current real estate transactions. The real estate transactions are of interest to many and the city should recognize this and act accordingly.

It is not clear to me why this is even an issue.

I would expect the city would opt for transparency and simply give you access to this information immediately.

STEPHEN GREENBERG

## SURPRISED THERE IS A PROBLEM

I am surprised that the *Westmount Independent* has a problem in being provided with what is public information, that is real-estate transactions in Westmount. This is of value to all Westmount residents who want to keep track of real estate prices so as to be able to gauge the value of their homes and the Westmount market generally. I suspect that the city's elected officials are supplied with this information in order that they can keep track of the health of the Westmount real estate market and thus you are not asking for additional work by the local civil service. I support the *Westmount Independent* being supplied with a regular report on Westmount house sales as has happened in the past.

DAVID GAWLEY

## MAKE PUBLIC INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC

I was really shocked to read your editorial (September 21, p. 8) regarding your difficulty in receiving information from city hall – information which is surely public knowledge and should be quickly made available to the public! Sometimes bureaucrats seem to forget that it is "the public" who pays their salaries, and that they are – or should be – at our service.

A community newspaper is a vital instrument in keeping everyone in the community informed about what is happening – from events, services, local politics and meetings, assistance for those who need it, building permits, and the sale of properties.

The *Independent* performs this function extremely well, and we are very fortunate to have it, and the dedicated staff including the intrepid Laureen Sweeney.

But a newspaper depends on advertising for its very survival and some information loses its value if it is not readily available.

Reading this editorial made me realize how very important the *Independent* is to me – and to all the Westmount community – and I think it is not too much to say that the *Independent* helps to keep us all together!

RICHARD LOCK, LANSDOWNE AVE.

## IN TOTAL AGREEMENT – WE ARE SUPPORTING YOUR POSITION

We are in total agreement with your article.

We should receive the information about the transfers and we are supporting

your position.

We also have a problem with the bureaucracy of the city clerk's office: a city water pipe was broken on May 25 next to our house on Grosvenor Ave. and it was considered by the Westmount water department as an emergency, to prevent the water infiltration to our basement. The work was done during the night, but our damages were approximately \$1,000 for drying and cleaning the infiltrations.

On May 27, I've submitted a claim to the "legal@westmount.org" and received a confirmation of the reception, but up to now there is no reimbursement for damages...

I've called Legal Services a few times, but they told me that they are working hard and waiting for the report from the water department... that's bureaucracy at work! One night to fix the problem, but four months for papers and still nothing!

GEORGE RODE

## DISTURBING THAT FIGHT IS NECESSARY

I find it most disturbing that our local newspaper has to fight to obtain information that is in the public domain.

Everyone realizes that, at this particular time, more information rather than less is essential for citizens to keep abreast as to what is going on in their city, such as a way to find out how their taxes are being spent.

Local newspapers fill a very important role in their communities even if news that is very important at a local level may be uninteresting to people who do not live in those communities.

Real estate figures are a most interesting part of your newspaper. Some people may turn to this information first; others may ignore it, but this is irrelevant.

A lost dog may be insignificant on a macro level, but for the family looking for their lost pet, this is one way to solve their painful situation.

The information that you are seeking, and that many find very interesting, can in no way negatively affect anything that the city of Westmount does.

Indeed, it may be helpful to the city in the long run.

Wishing you much success in this matter and may you continue to do the good work you do.

BERNIE SHUSTER, WOOD AVE.

## TRANSFERS USED TO SPOT TRENDS

I always look forward to the weekly receipt of your newspaper, the *Independent* – a source of interchanges, of views and opinions. But the September 21 publication informing us (p. 8) of the current dispute between the city of Westmount and



## LETTERS IN SUPPORT OF *INDIE'S* ACCESS TO REAL ESTATE INFORMATION

your paper I find disturbing.

As a former long-time property owner, I always like to read the house transfers, and the current trends in the market according to location or property.

I only hope that this little altercation may soon be rectified with the realization that the transfers under this particular column are of general interest to many readers.

GRETA STETHEM

### INDEPENDENT NOT ALONE

I agree wholeheartedly with the views expressed on p. 8 of your September 21 edition. In so very many situations, the very same problem arises — where the bureaucrats forget to/for whom they are responsible. You are clearly not alone, including a recent book by John Kasich, *It's Up to Us*.

BOYD WHITTALL, ST. CATHERINE ST.

### SHOCKING FAILURE TO COOPERATE

To me, the *Independent* is the standard bearer of what Westmount does for its citizens and the quality of life we enjoy here. May our elected officials become aware of this shocking failure to cooperate by the city's clerk's office. We hope they will act to safeguard the interests of their constituents by upholding the free voice of the press for the good of the readership it serves.

LOUISE TRÉPANIÉ, METCALFE AVE.

### DISMAYED BY RED TAPE

Your appeal to readers in the September 21 issue of the *Independent* left me feeling deeply dismayed with the bureaucratic red tape the city of Westmount has imposed upon your ability to provide timely and accurate reporting of real estate transfers in Westmount.

I have been collecting Andy Dodge's property transfer reports and real estate articles since 1997, and have used them to follow the evolution of real estate values in Westmount over the past 24 years. Mr. Dodge's periodic "historical spotlight" on selected Westmount addresses is equally interesting.

The fact that Andy Dodge and Associates was a longstanding and reputable residential appraisal firm (1989–2016) based in Westmount lends strong credibility to the *Indie's* real estate column. The fact that weekly advertising in the paper is almost exclusively by real estate brokers is further corroboration of the importance and popularity of its real estate section.

After more than 50 years of collaboration with the *Examiner*, Andy Dodge and the *Independent*, the city's [at one time at-

tempted] imposition of a publication ban on the identities of purchasers, in return for continuing access to its monthly list of transfers, does not make sense. With the exception of the occasional off-title transfer, all transfers of immovables are registered in the Registre Foncier du Québec and are publicly available online at a nominal cost. Anyone can access the deed of sale for a given property, which deed contains among other things, the transfer price and the identities of the vendor and purchaser.

I also question the city's reticence to provide access to its list of transfers on the grounds of protecting personal information. Notwithstanding current privacy laws, chapter 1, article 2 of the Act Respecting Access to Documents Held by Public Bodies and the Protection of Personal Information states the following:

"This Act does not apply to

- (1) the acts and the register of civil status;
- (2) the registers and other documents kept in registry offices for publication purposes;..."

Based on the foregoing, it would appear to me that information contained in a registered deed of sale is exempt from privacy concerns.

CLAIRE PANET-RAYMOND,  
BLENHEIM PLACE

### REAL ESTATE STATISTICS IMPORTANT TO EVERYONE

The availability of information regarding Westmount real estate transactions is being unreasonably delayed by city hall, it would appear, quite intentionally. This has been remarked upon by many readers and it is not evident nor well explained, why we are being so deprived. This information and the related statistics are important to everyone. Who is buying? Who is selling? What is the current *mill* [property tax] rate, what taxes are being levied, *et cetera.*, *et cetera*. These are all questions to which prospective buyers and sellers should have timely access, and not, for example, three months after the fact.

These important questions can be answered only by having unrestricted access to the records at city hall, unless "someone knows someone on the inside..."? Perish the thought!

CHRIS HERTEN-GREAVEN,  
WESTMOUNT RESIDENT SINCE 1975

### LET'S WORK TOGETHER

I have lived in different apartments in Westmount and I once owned a home on Grove Park, all within walking distance of city hall, so I always made my way over there to pay my taxes or hydro bill in person. I always found everyone at city hall to

be super friendly and helpful. I actually liked going to city hall. So I was really confused reading your September 21 editorial (p. 8). These are not the city hall officials I encountered.

My appeal is to all those who work at city hall. You are part of our Westmount community too, even if you don't live here. The *Westmount Independent* newspaper reaches out to all citizens in Westmount, for many reasons, and helps many to feel connected and part of the city. The real estate transfer information is not a sealed government document.

This information is for anyone seeking it.

So why not work with Mr. Price instead of against him? What is there to gain by giving him a hard time? All of us should be working together in our Westmount, not against each other

PETER BERSON,  
SHERBROOKE & KITCHENER

### INFO ON HOME SALES LEGITIMATE JOURNALISM

Well, mystery solved why real estate transfers published in the *Independent* have been lagging half a year or more.

Publishing information on local home sales is legitimate journalism, all the more so in the current rapidly evolving and fluid real estate market. So what could have been behind the paper's woes in obtaining the data from city hall, woes that seemed to dovetail with escalating property prices that caught fire about eight years ago?

Could it be that the public display of large sums of money changing hands was looked at askance as "not the Westmount way"?

It's obvious to any reader of this letters page or who follows council meetings that Westmount residents are vocal in our complaints and more demanding of information and support from elected officials, especially when our quality of life has been or, can be, affected. Perhaps that doesn't sit well with those who'd rather we not speak up or be so persistent in pursuing information or solutions that we consider, as residents, to be in our best interests.

DOROTHY LIPOVENKO, YORK ST.

### SHAME ON WESTMOUNT FOR DELAYING INFO

The city of Westmount is doing a disservice to its residents in refusing to continue to provide the sales information concerning the purchase and sale of real estate in the municipality.

The information is important for residents and should be readily available to the public without delay. In this sense, it is

shameful that the city is acting in such an uncooperative manner.

The explanation that the dissemination of the information would violate privacy rights of citizens is a spurious and cowardly claim. The information relating to real estate transactions is publicly available and the compiled list of transactions that the city has been regularly providing would be disclosed by any number of access to information requests.

All the city has done is delay the inevitable reporting of such information.

Shame on you, Westmount — shame!

RICHARD YUFE

### REAL ESTATE INFORMATION A HELPFUL TOOL

As longtime Westmount residents, we have bought six Westmount homes and sold five over the years. We always used the *Independent* real estate information as a helpful tool to assess the activity in the market before we made a move. It remains essential that it be reported in the complete manner of earlier years.

DONNA-LYNN KOVIC, CLARKE AVE.

### PLEASED WITH MAYOR'S RECOMMENDATION

I am most pleased with our Mayor Christina Smith's decision to recommend that free and easy access to property-transfer information in Westmount be made available to you and your team once again. (And no "slow-walking," as you said that you had encountered in earlier times.)

A reasonable person, she knows that this is a particularly valued and relevant part of your newspaper's content, and that many Westmounters appreciate their having easy access to this information, which is public and which it is their right to know.

I support your entitlement to provide us with this information, itself provided by the city of Westmount, and I am grateful to Mayor Smith and her council for taking the initiative toward setting things right.

I look forward to the real estate transfer column being complete in the coming weeks, and becoming once again a monthly piece in the *Westmount Independent* that so many Westmounters appreciate reading.

Thank you Mayor Smith, and thank you, David.

WILLEM H. WESTENBERG, STAYNER ST.

### TRANSPARENCY IS VALUABLE, EVEN IF TRADE-OFFS NECESSARY (WHICH THEY AREN'T IN THIS CASE)

We moved from Toronto to Westmount in the .....

continued on p. 12



*‘Neglected’ area needs city attention, he says*

# D’Amico hopes to represent District 1, where he lives

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Antonio D’Amico launched his election campaign last week to represent residents of District 1 calling for a “better balance” in city spending and greater attention paid to this large area of Westmount north of The Boulevard, which has its own characteristics and set of problems, he contends.

“It’s been neglected,” he said. And its unique topography, parts of which are on the steep slope of the mountain, makes it different and does not necessarily conform to some of the city’s requirements for building permits, for example.

“There are safety issues around school zones as well as a need for better balance between visitors and residents at Summit Woods including drag racing at night and a need for more security cameras,” he said. Ongoing house construction, such as on Edgehill, where he lives, contributes to traffic issues on some of the narrow, steep roads.

These are quality of life items that District 1 residents live with day and night, he said. The district also needs more street work as well as efforts to reduce speeding and improve “greening” and sustainability for Summit Woods.

“We need to look at how we can make things better,” he said adding that he believed it is important for District 1 to have a member of city council who lives in the district, as he has for eight years on both its east and west sides.

“If you don’t live in District 1, you don’t understand the issues. Municipal politics is about being closer to the people. You serve the people. We need to look at other cities, see what works and be ahead of the curve.”

## Background in construction

D’Amico, who holds degrees in commerce and arts from McGill and an MBA, is an independent chartered professional accountant with a background in IT and budgeting processes.

He also has held a contractor’s licence from the Régie du bâtiment du Québec (RBQ). “So construction is part of my DNA,” he said.

This has led to his concerns about the city permits process in which, he said, one size does not always fit “all” especially when it comes to the many District 1 single-family residences on the mountainside.

“There’s a big demand for pools,” for example, which in some cases, aren’t permitted when a large property goes between



Antonio D’Amico on September 30.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

two streets, he explained. As well, windows on a third or upper storey can’t be seen from the street because of the topography yet must conform to building and architectural guidelines.

D’Amico, who entered the last municipal election late in the process, lost by four votes, a result he hopes to overturn with an earlier start in campaigning.

Since the last election, he joined the board of the Westmount Municipal Association (WMA) as interim president when previous president Paul Marriott moved out of Westmount. He left the board, however, when Beryl Wajsman took over. D’Amico has organized the WMA’s last three “meet the candidates” meetings for the Quebec and two federal elections.

same year that the *Westmount Independent* was founded and have been regular readers ever since.

The real estate transfer section has been very useful for keeping track of trends and it’s one of the sections that I always look at. Transparency is valuable in a democracy and we should strive to maximize it, even when it presents difficult trade-offs.

In this case, I fail to see any trade-off whatsoever, with efficiency, with a legitimate right to privacy, with fairness.

In fact, I would like the city to explain what truly motivates their obstructionism. Why are they being difficult? Maybe the

*Kez, cont’d from p. 1*

dent last week. This is one of the reasons she hopes to have the opportunity to continue her efforts “to ensure city resources are allocated to our district.”

But with their eventual development “whatever gets built, I want to be in on the planning stage, and to ensure that residents are involved in order to protect the green space “which is so important with climate change.”

## Improvements, needs listed

Since her election, some of the “improvements” she describes include a pedestrian crosswalk on the Dorchester median at Clandeboye, a resident-only parking zone on the south side of Dorchester and a complete re-do of Stayner Park, including new splash pad, play equipment, basketball courts and comfort station.

Her election website [www.kathleenkez.ca](http://www.kathleenkez.ca) also lists road and sidewalk work on Clandeboye, Stayner and Dorchester west-bound.

Among some of the issues that Kez said still need to be addressed, are more traffic calming, as well as safety measures in the lanes given the overflow of traffic onto the residential streets and lanes. Another is more crosswalks to the median on Dorchester.

Residents also need resident-only parking on more streets, she contends, given their proximity to the busy commercial area and the RCMP building and more north-south pedestrian crosswalks to link the residential and commercial areas.

Also needed in her view is relief for residents living near the Ville Marie Expressway, over which the city is in court with the Quebec Transport ministry, as well as re-establishment of Selby Park after its disappearance since 2015 over the Turcot project.

A chartered professional accountant, Kez is the city’s commissioner of finance, which she said was an asset in helping the city achieve a record-breaking capital works

## Letters in support, cont’d from p. 11

*Independent* can do an article on that at some point. I’ll read it with interest.

MARIA POPOVA, CLARKE AVE.

## OFTEN LOOK TO COLUMN FOR INFO

I am writing to support your demand for the information about property sales. I would like to see the sales of properties in Westmount in a timely and regular manner, including their price and their owners’ names, reinstated. I have often looked to see the sales value of properties similar to mine to get an idea as to a possible price. It seems the *Independent* staff have been



Councillor Kathleen Kez and Bro on September 30.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

program of “over \$26 million” for 2021. She also regularly attended the Turcot Bon Voisinage project meetings to voice concerns to Transport Quebec over issues such as graffiti on its structures.

Kez attended both Roslyn and Westmount High and has lived on Dorchester across from the Tupper parking lots for more than 35 years. In addition to her own tax preparation business, she volunteers for the Canada Revenue Agency, which offers such services for people in need.

Also running in District 8 is Michael Mossop of Columbia Ave. (see story June 8, p. 1).

accommodating to city hall and in fact did all the work. Furthermore, this information is already publicly available, including the name of the owners. Why are the city employees creating more work?

MERYLYN WILK

## We welcome your letters

We welcome your letters but reserve the right to choose and edit them. Please limit to 300 words and submit before Friday 10 am to be considered for publication the following week.

email us at:  
[editor@westmountindependent.com](mailto:editor@westmountindependent.com)



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**Montreal-West | 143 Stathearn N.**



**Introducing | \$1,598,000**

**NDG | 3434 Harvard**



**New Price | \$1,155,000**

**NDG | 4138 Girouard**



**New Price | \$1,115,000**

**NDG | 5454 Grovehill**



**Sold**

**CND/NDG | 2334 Wilson**



**Sold**



## STM: Atwater Metro roof/roadway to finish this month



September 24.



October 4.

PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT.

The Société de Transport de Montréal (STM) has been working on the roof of the Atwater Metro station since April 2019.

This roof is also de Maisonneuve Blvd.'s roadway from Atwater to about halfway to Wood.

"The work will be finished in October," spokesperson Amélie Régis told the *Independent* in French by email on September

27, but "we do not have a precise date." The remaining work comprises asphalt and landscaping.

DESIGN LOUIS GEORGE

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## Weeding never ends, even in fall



"As the growing season comes to an end, citizen gardeners Susan Zegray and Kate Ribicki answered the call to clear out weeds at the Westmount community gardens that are located at the Westmount Athletic Grounds [behind Westmount High]," said fellow gardener Virginia Elliott. "For a nominal fee, vegetable plots are made available to residents with no access to land for cultivation." There is currently a waiting list to obtain a garden plot.

PHOTO COURTESY OF V. ELLIOTT.

## Reality bites



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# Chou Chou Shoes celebrates its 40th birthday



Seen here at Chou Chou Shoes on September 29, co-owner Harry Saragosti has been selling women's shoes for the past 40 years.

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

While many retail businesses have come and gone on Sherbrooke St. in Westmount over the years, Chou Chou Shoes is among those that have survived.

The locally owned retailer of high-quality women's shoes is marking its 40th birthday this year, with 32 of those years having been spent in Westmount.

Chou Chou first opened on Queen Mary Rd. in Montreal's Snowdon district in the summer of 1981. The store moved to Westmount in 1989.

According to Harry Saragosti, who co-owns Chou Chou with his wife Raymonde, the store's first Westmount location was in a commercial space above La Fournagerie on the south side of Sherbrooke.

As Harry and Raymonde had opened the store just a few months before they were married, the love they had for each other grew at the same time as their fondness for selling quality women's shoes.





Within a year, they decided to move to a second location on Sherbrooke where they remained for 26 years. They've been in their current spot at 4875A Sherbrooke for the past six.

Saragosti attributes the store's success to the professionalism of his sales team, as well as to his careful selection of merchandise chosen for the store's lines each year.

"When we are doing the buying for the shoes, we are travelling to Europe, to Italy, to Spain," he said. "When the customer buys the shoes, we want them to wear them. This is always very important for us – that the customer enjoys the shoes."

Chou Chou's customers are not only from Westmount, but from all over Montreal. After four decades, Harry is proud to say he has served three generations of certain families.

"We have many who come here who are more than customers – they are friends," he said.



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And another one does (hit the Greene railway bridge)



This truck hit the railway bridge over Greene Ave. on September 29, six days after the previous known event. Anecdotaly, this breaks the record of last week (August 12 to September 23, see September 28, p. 23) for the shortest time between two strikes. Perhaps some very aggressive signage is called for? This view is looking north from under the bridge to the intersection of Greene and Prospect.

PHOTO COURTESY OF M. RAHIMI.



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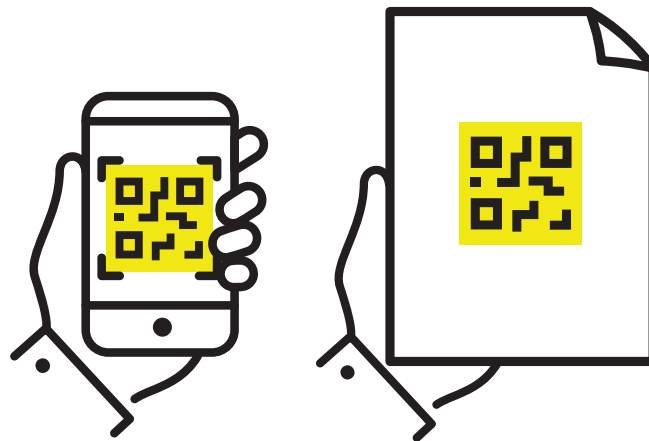
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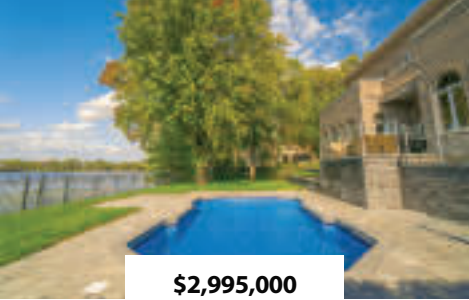
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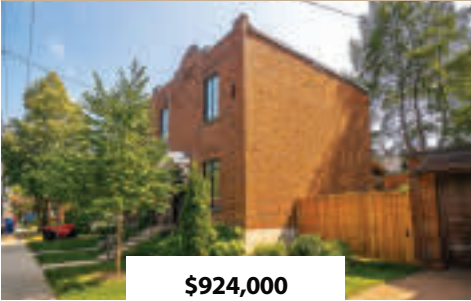
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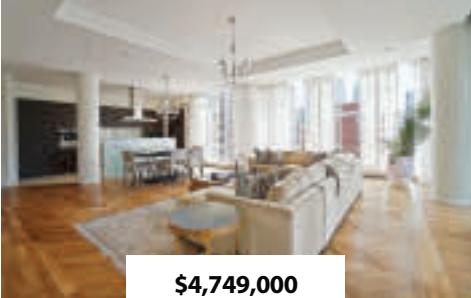
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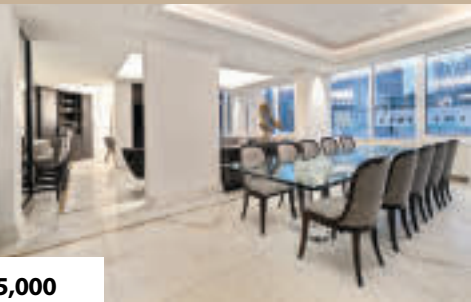
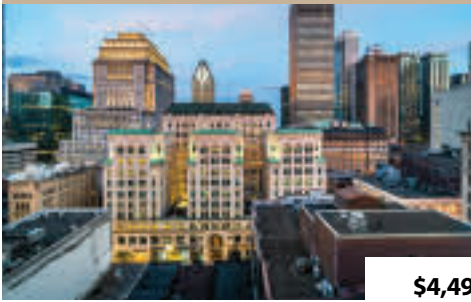
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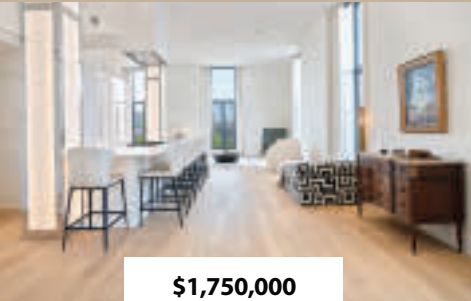


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*\*The price indicated includes GST+QST*

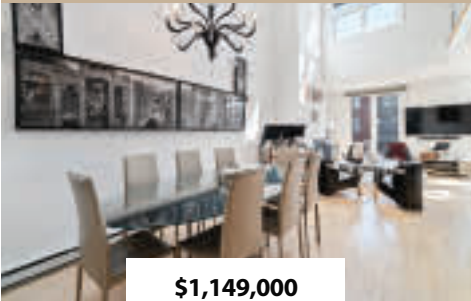
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Real Estate

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# April transfers: Most over \$2 million

*Note: The following article relates to the registration of deeds of sale for Westmount property in April 2021, gleaned by the Independent from non-city sources. A list of sales can be found on p. 23.*

It is getting tougher and tougher to find anything in Westmount selling below the \$2-million mark and this situation is evident from the list of transfers for April this year.

Deeds for 13 single-family homes and one duplex were signed in April, all but four over \$2 million. The prices may have been modest by Westmount standards – the top price was \$3,025,000 – but the average mark-up over valuation was 34.8 percent, the highest since the 2020 valuation roll came into effect. Multiplied by the average valuation for the city, that meant that

the “typical” Westmount home might have had a value in April of more than \$2.6 million.

There were no mark-downs from valuation in April, the lowest comparison being a 6.8 percent mark-up, while 18 Anwoth Rd. sold for more than double its municipal tax value, the highest mark-up since the 2020 valuation roll was created. In fact, that house had been purchased in May 2019, for \$1,234,000, and the new \$2,550,000 price obviously reflects serious renovation that has taken place since.

The lowest price in the April sales involved one of the townhouses on St. Catherine St. next to the Westmount railroad station; with a price of \$1,177,500. It was still a hefty 75 percent higher than its municipal valuation.

Condos

While the residential *continued on p. 25*



18 Anwoth on September 29.



653 Belmont on September 29.



670 Roslyn on September 29.



4430 St. Catherine St. on September 29.



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# Bought & Sold – real estate transfers in April 2021

ADDRESS	VENDOR	PRICE	2020 VAL	RATIO (%)
18 Anwoth	Dino Ionescu	\$2,550,000	\$1,175,000	117.0%
653 Belmont	Nicholas Krnjevic & Claire Fripp	\$2,100,000	\$1,966,600	6.8%
639 Grosvenor	Sharokh Fahm	\$2,505,000	\$1,332,300	88.0%
3 Hudson	Hailong Wang	\$2,110,000	\$1,815,600	16.2%
432 Lansdowne	Aicha el Haili	\$1,850,000	\$1,475,500	25.4%
600 Lansdowne	LBQuébec Immo Part Inc.	\$2,500,000	\$1,450,000	72.4%
655 Lansdowne	Marie-Annick Fournelle	\$2,400,000	\$2,143,700	12.0%
641 Murray Hill	PDI Quebec Project Inc.	\$2,446,250	\$1,743,500	40.3%
256 Prince Albert	Michael Khazzam & Estelle Chetrit	\$1,345,000	\$965,900	39.2%
348 Redfern	Roger Lawi & estate Tamara Levy	\$2,700,000	\$2,378,600	13.5%
670-72 Roslyn	George R. Hucal & Christine M. Kandic	\$3,025,000	\$2,698,000	12.1%
4830 St. Catherine	Robert Phillips & Stéphanie Corbeil	\$1,177,500	\$673,200	74.9%
21 Willow	Andrée McNamara & David Tait	\$1,675,000	\$1,298,800	29.0%
<b>DUPLEXES</b>				
505-11 Lansdowne	Brian C. Bertram & Yolanta Niklewicz	\$2,470,000	\$1,776,000	39.1%
<b>CONDOMINIUMS</b>				
11 Hillside #315	Andrea Geci	\$400,000	\$295,900	35.2%
215 Redfern #605	Maxence Elia	\$2,200,000	\$2,038,100	7.9%
<b>OTHER</b>				
Lot, Mount Pleasant	Gaby Doumit & Rita Boulos	\$1,850,000	\$1,268,501	45.8%



## M SUR LA MONTAGNE

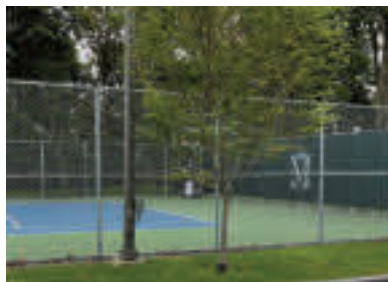
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# infoWESTMOUNT

2021.10.05 • Vol. 2/18  
Publié par la Ville de Westmount  
Published by the City of Westmount

## NOUVELLES

PROCHAINE SÉANCE  
DU CONSEIL

Lundi 15 novembre

## NEWS

NEXT COUNCIL  
MEETING

Monday, November 15<sup>th</sup>



### Nouvelles poubelles publiques à Westmount

Le projet de remplacement des poubelles publiques est complété. Au total, 190 paniers ont été remplacés par de nouvelles unités simples (ordures) et doubles (ordures et recyclage). [westmount.org](http://westmount.org).



### New garbage cans in Westmount

The public waste cans replacement project is now completed. In total, 190 baskets were replaced with new single (garbage) and double (garbage and recycling) units. [westmount.org](http://westmount.org).

### Le croissant Forden devient une rue à sens unique

Le croissant Forden est une rue à sens unique depuis le mercredi 29 septembre 2021. Les véhicules doivent la signalisation et circuler dans le sens inverse des aiguilles d'une montre. [westmount.org](http://westmount.org).

### Élections municipales : personnel électoral

Le bureau du président d'élection procède à l'embauche du personnel pour divers postes lors de l'élection municipale du 7 novembre 2021. Pour plus d'informations et pour déposer votre candidature, visitez [westmount.org/vote](http://westmount.org/vote).

### Élections municipales 2021

Les prochaines élections municipales auront lieu le **7 novembre 2021**. Les électeurs de la Ville seront appelés à élire un nouveau conseil pour un mandat de quatre ans. Pour plus

d'information, visitez [westmount.org/vote](http://westmount.org/vote).

### Dépôt pour résidus de jardin du ch. Belvédère ouvert aux entrepreneurs

Le dépôt du ch. Belvédère sera ouvert **du lundi 20 septembre au vendredi 19 novembre** entre **7 h 30 et 16 h**. Le dépôt est accessible uniquement aux entrepreneurs détenant un permis de la Ville. Pour connaître les matières acceptées, visitez [westmount.org/residus-vert](http://westmount.org/residus-vert)

### Passeport vaccinal COVID-19

Vous devez présenter une preuve de vaccination contre la COVID-19 pour avoir accès à certaines activités au Centre des loisirs de Westmount, à certains événements municipaux et à la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount. [westmount.org](http://westmount.org).

### Forden Crescent becomes a one-way street

Forden Crescent became a one-way street on Wednesday, September 29, 2021. Vehicles will be required to follow the signage on site and drive counter-clockwise. [westmount.org](http://westmount.org).

### Municipal election - electoral staff

The Office of the Returning Officer is recruiting electoral staff for various positions for the upcoming municipal election on November 7, 2021. For information and to apply, visit [westmount.org/vote](http://westmount.org/vote).

### 2021 municipal election

The next municipal election will be held on **November 7, 2021**. The electors of the City of Westmount will be asked to elect a new council for a four-year term. For more information, visit [westmount.org/vote](http://westmount.org/vote).

### Belvedere Rd. garden waste depot open to contractors

The Belvedere depot will be open **from Monday, September 20 until Friday, November 19 between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m.** The depot is accessible only to landscaping contractors with a City permit. Visit [westmount.org](http://westmount.org) for the list of accepted materials.

### COVID-19 vaccination passport

You must present proof of vaccination against COVID-19 to have access to some activities at the Westmount Recreation Centre, to most municipal events, and to the Westmount Public Library. Find out more at [westmount.org](http://westmount.org).

## BIBLIOTHÈQUE

### Nouvelle phase de réouverture

**À partir du lundi 20 septembre**, les documents suivants sont requis pour entrer à la Bibliothèque :

- carte de membre de la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount valide
- passeport vaccinal (13 ans et +)
- pièce d'identité avec photo (13 ans et +)

Vous devez accepter les exigences et conditions de la Bibliothèque avant de vous présenter. [westlib.org](http://westlib.org)

### Service de cueillette sans contact

Réservez vos items en ligne ou par courriel et récupérez-les à la Bibliothèque. [westlib.org](http://westlib.org).

### Besoin d'aide pour votre preuve de vaccination COVID-19?

Les abonnés peuvent appeler au 514 989-5355 ou utiliser le formulaire en ligne pour de l'aide pour télécharger l'appli VaxiCode ou pour imprimer leur preuve de vaccination. [westlib.org](http://westlib.org)

### Appel de candidatures :

#### Comité de la bibliothèque publique

Le conseil municipal cherche à pourvoir deux postes au sein du Comité de la bibliothèque publique. Nommés pour trois ans, les candidats retenus devront offrir leur temps et leurs compétences de façon bénévole. Veuillez soumettre une lettre de motivation par écrit avant **le lundi 4 octobre 2021** à l'attention de Julie-Anne Cardella, directrice. Contact : **514 989-5429 / [jacardella@westmount.org](mailto:jacardella@westmount.org)**.

### Conférence – Clay Roots: The Visual Arts Centre in Westmount

**Samedi 16 octobre, 19 h, Victoria Hall**, avec Victoria LeBlanc, artiste, écrivaine, commissaire d'expositions de la galerie du Victoria Hall. Ouvert aux abonnés de la Bibliothèque. Inscription et passeport vaccinal requis. [westlib.org](http://westlib.org)

## LIBRARY

### Next phase of Library reopening

**As of Monday, September 20**, the following is required to enter the Library:

- valid Westmount Public Library card
- vaccine passport (ages 13+)
- photo ID (ages 13+)

You must agree to the Library's requirements and conditions prior to your arrival. [westlib.org](http://westlib.org)

### Contactless pickup service

You can still reserve your items online or by phone and pick them up at the Library. For details, visit [westlib.org](http://westlib.org).

### Do you need help with your COVID-19 proof of vaccination?

Library members can phone 514 989-5355 or use the online form to obtain assistance downloading the VaxiCode app or printing their proof of vaccination. [westlib.org](http://westlib.org)

### Call for candidates:

#### Public Library Committee

City Council is looking to fill two positions within the Public Library Committee. Appointed for a 3-year term, successful candidates are expected to volunteer their time and expertise. Please submit a letter of interest by **Monday, October 4, 2021** to the attention of Julie-Anne Cardella, Director. Info: **514 989-5429 / [jacardella@westmount.org](mailto:jacardella@westmount.org)**.

### Conference – Clay Roots: The Visual Arts Centre in Westmount

**Saturday, October 16, 7 p.m., Victoria Hall**. With Victoria LeBlanc, artist, writer, Curator of the Gallery at Victoria Hall. Open to Library members. Registration and vaccination passport required. [westlib.org](http://westlib.org).





*April transfers, cont'd from p. 22*

market might have been busy, the condominium market — at least so far as closings are concerned — came to nearly a dead stop in April, with only two sales providing book-ends for this year's condo market: a 215 Redfern Ave. apartment sold for \$2,200,000 while just around the corner at 11 Hillside Ave., another apartment sold for \$400,000.

Added to nine sales in the first three months of this year, the average mark-up for condos is 16 percent, while the one- and

two-family dwelling average for the first four months is almost 25 percent.

The only other sale in April involved a vacant lot on Mount Pleasant Ave., 650.5 square metres between Nos. 478 and 482, which sold for \$264.20 per square foot, a good 46 percent above municipal valuation. How this relates to the next valuation roll in 2023 remains to be seen; that roll is supposed to be reflective of the market in July 2021, so this is going to be an important transaction for the city to study.



11 Hillside on October 4.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

*Cited as Brzeski's 'legacy'*

## Final report recommends ways to improve city's accessibility

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

After a year of looking at the city through the eyes of residents experiencing everyday challenges in navigating streets, sidewalks, parks and using many municipal services, the Westmount Advisory Accessibility Committee (WAAC) presented its final report last week at the end of its mandate.

"It's the first time that residents living with disabilities or representing the elderly have had direct engagement with every city department head during the year," Councillor Marina Brzeski told the city council meeting September 20.

As commissioner of sustainability and accessibility who chaired the committee, she said, "It's been a great experience."

Heading a list of more than 50 recommendations to improve inclusiveness and universal accessibility, is the formation of a standing committee through which suggestions from the public can be channelled to the city on an ongoing basis.

Highlights of the report and recommended actions include obstacles such as a button for automatic doors placed too high for wheelchair users or even a door that swings open toward the user.

Among others listed were elevator maintenance at Victoria Hall and the WRC, insufficient time to cross Sherbrooke north/south, and ramp access to the stage at Victoria Hall as well as certain measures to be added in Urban Planning renovation guidelines and increased promotion of Public Security's check-in services in coordination with Contactivity Seniors' Centre.

In thanking Brzeski for her work on the committee and its report, Mayor Christina Smith said it would have "long-lasting impact" and "a legacy to leave behind."

Brzeski has decided not to seek re-election November 7 (see story September 21, p. 6).

Created by Brzeski, the committee included five local residents and two city employees who met informally monthly as well as formally with department heads to identify visible and non-visible impediments experienced by persons with varying disabilities (see story October 20, 2020, p. 7).

The identified obstacles and recommended actions in the report are addressed to 10 city departments with many targeting Urban Planning, Public Security, Sports & Recreation and Public Works as well as Engineering.

The report also notes how the committee's year-long mandate turned out to be an "appropriate" time to receive input from residents living with some form of disability given the COVID-19 pandemic that drew attention to the needs of the "most vulnerable citizens" as well as the Imagine Westmount 2040 project and urban planning by-law review.

The report can be accessed on the city's website at [community/accessibility](http://community/accessibility).



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A Personal View

# A second look at takedown of knife wielder on The Boulevard



A suspect is subdued, left, as a police officer recovers from being accidentally pepper sprayed. PHOTO COURTESY OF P. MARTIN.

BY DAVID PRICE, EDITOR

Former city councillor Patrick Martin took this photo about the incident that we reported on in our September 14 issue (“Police arrest knife-wielding suspect,” p. 24).

A knife-wielding suspect was apprehended on The Boulevard September 4, during which time one police officer was hurt in the arm and another was inadvertently doused with pepper spray by his team.

Putting a newspaper together can be a chaotic activity as time and the space available in the issue start to run out. Sometimes, as long as things are true and interesting, there is no time to ponder – at the

time – how we could do better. As it happens, Patrick and I were chatting a few days after he sent photos of the incident to me and he said something like, “I liked those photos because they showed the police putting themselves in danger to apprehend a suspect, which we don’t often see.”

Looking back at them, I agree and I wish I had run one originally. These officers did not wake up that morning thinking they would be wrangling a knife-wielding suspect to the ground or being pepper sprayed by friendly fire – but that is what happened. They were working to make us safe and I thank them, and I hope they have both made a full recovery.

Police Report

# Break-ins and attempts at Westmount homes and businesses

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Two Sherbrooke St. businesses were entered illegally last week, with one being robbed, while thieves attempted but failed to break into a home near the corner of Kensington and Sherbrooke.

According to police at Station 12, shortly after 9 am on September 28 the owner of one of the businesses near the corner of Victoria Ave. and Sherbrooke St. contacted them to report signs of an overnight break-in and that he had found the cash register empty.

Although the store had security cameras, the alarm service provider told the investigators the cameras weren’t functioning during the incident. The business owner agreed to have them upgraded immediately.

Second time lucky/unlucky

When the business owner came in the following day, he noticed that loose change was scattered around on the floor. By this time, however, the security camera system was operating again and it recorded a second intrusion that had taken place overnight.

In that recording, according to Station 12 community relations officer Adalbert Pimentel, an intruder is seen entering the business through a rear door and proceeding to the cash register, where he found only loose change as the owner had removed everything else.

Since the investigators couldn’t find traces of forced entry, “they suspect someone has the key to the back door of the merchant,” said Pimentel, adding that the owner was advised to immediately call in a locksmith to change the rear door lock.

Although the police hadn’t yet identified the suspect by name last week, they had a

good description as provided by the security system and expected to move forward as a result.

Window broken, but attempt fails

There was another break-in that same night at a business a short distance away – this time on Victoria Ave. near the corner of de Maisonneuve Blvd.

In this case, the glass in a front-door window was shattered, although the perpetrator failed to breach an inner door, which was found locked and undamaged upon inspection by the police investigators afterwards.

An employee told police that nothing inside appeared to have been disturbed, leading them to conclude the suspect hadn’t managed to get in. Neighbours reported hearing the sound of glass being shattered around 10 pm, but no one actually witnessed it.

‘Good locks make all the difference’

Sometime between 6 pm on the evening of September 29 and 10:30 am on Sept. 30, an attempt was made to break into a residence near the corner of Sherbrooke St. and Kensington Ave.

When the owners arrived home, they immediately noticed damage inflicted on the edge of the house’s side entrance door.

It was on an area of the door next to the lock. The investigators concluded that it was probably caused by a screwdriver.

There were no other signs of an attempted break-in anywhere else around the property.

Pimentel speculated that the quality of the locks and the ruggedness of the doors probably kept the perpetrators from getting in. “Good locks make all the difference,” he said.

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## Purse under table opened silently

# Westmouter loses cards, ID, sense of safety after wallet stolen on Greene Ave.

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

A retired Westmount woman who lost almost \$20,000 after thieves stole her wallet as she was sitting on the outdoor terrace at a Greene Ave. restaurant told the *Independent* she wanted to share her story so that others might be spared the same ordeal.

"I'm so absolutely devastated," Maureen (who did not want to be identified by her last name because the perpetrators stole all her IDs) said in an e-mail the day of the incident on September 25.

"Everything, health card, driver's licence, social insurance, irreplaceable pics of my parents, all credit cards. And they've already taken \$2,400 out of my bank account plus thousands spent at the Apple Store. Even my OAS monthly payment stolen.

"So, Greene Ave. people – beware. I am so upset – it's going to take at least two weeks to get my cash back. But it's all the other stuff – like I don't even know where to start."

She had just returned from an out-of-town trip to assist an ailing friend and felt she needed a bit of relaxation. As she lives within strolling distance of the Greene Ave. district, she decided to drop by the restaurant's outdoor patio to enjoy a cool drink.

She said that before sitting down at a table, she had noticed three scruffy-looking men, dressed in old jeans and baseball caps that partly concealed their faces, who were also seated.

### Suspects at next table

As it happened, she was sitting at the table next to theirs, with her back up against the chair of one of the men who was seated behind her.

Although she remembered the advice often given by police – in public places like restaurants where there is seating, purses should never be left dangling over the back of a chair – she initially put hers on her lap, but she later placed it at her feet where she could feel it, while assuming it would be safe there.

Somehow, someone managed, while the purse was zippered shut, to open it without her hearing, removed the wallet, and then zippered the purse up again. "These guys were very, very good at what they did," she said.

By the time she realized a few hours later that her wallet was missing and she started to notify her financial institutions, the perpetrators had managed to empty one of her bank accounts and racked up \$10,000 in credit card charges for electronics purchases at the Apple Store. When all was said and done, they stole nearly \$20,000, she estimates.

"They made it downtown right away. They tried at Holt Renfrew with the credit card, but it was declined three times. Holt Renfrew is only a block away from the downtown Apple Store."

While credit card thieves are notorious for their lightning-quick ability to rack up charges in a few hours or sometimes just minutes before the cards are cancelled, Maureen said she would have cancelled hers faster – "but I was told that I had to sit there and wait for the police, and it took the police an hour to come," she said.

### Suspect recognized

She maintains that one of the servers at the restaurant said she recognized at least one of the alleged suspects.

Although the restaurant had no security cameras of its own, the police investigators may be able to identify the suspects from cameras stationed at nearby establishments.

"I have been robbed of knowing that I am safe in my small community," added Maureen. "How does this make a senior feel? How does this make anyone feel? I am in the horrible process of replacing any document I ever had. I am in the process of spending money to use taxis because I have no driver's licence and spending every day getting all these documents replaced. Heaven forbid I have to go to the hospital without a Medicare card."

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LYSANNE FOWLER

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He is presently at the Montreal SPCA kennel and he is ready to go to a new home right now.

Oscar is a lively senior with a healthy bill of health except for a renal function follow-up from his SPCA vetting protocol. He

# Cuddling Oscar

is up to date with his inoculations, neutered and microchipped. As a 12-year-old, he qualifies under the SPCA geriatric doggie program for an adoption fee reduction, expecting that the difference would be spent on spoiling him with toys and fall accessories!

Please refer to his identification number 48691515 when you visit the Montreal SPCA website at [www.sPCA.com](http://www.sPCA.com) and fill out the adoption application for him on the attached link. Once submitted, you will then be contacted for a telephone interview, followed by a visit by appointment at the SPCA.

Your neighbour, Lysanne



*9 Lives*

LYSANNE FOWLER

Here is Lucky, an exquisite white domestic shorthair with definite Siamese features: his sculpted face, huge light-blue eyes, perfect pinkness, long body and tail.

He is quite stunning, even just lying on the blanket with his paws tucked in.

Lucky is presently at the Montreal SPCA cattery and is looking forward to a forever family in our neighborhood.

He is a young three-year-old, very healthy, up to date with his inoculations, neutered and microchipped.

Please refer to his identification number 48769951 when you visit the Montreal SPCA website at [www.sPCA.com](http://www.sPCA.com) and fill out the adoption application for him on the attached link. Once submitted, you will

# Lucky Fellow

then be contacted for a telephone interview, followed by a visit by appointment at the SPCA.

Your neighbour,  
Lysanne

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*I am recruiting volunteers to participate in my doctoral research on caring for urban animals. If you are interested in speaking with me of your experience, please contact me. Our conversations remain confidential.*

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# Southern Quebec species going north, Nature Conservancy's Bonin tells Rotarians

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

The Westmount Rotarians had the opportunity last week to learn about the Nature Conservancy of Canada, a non-profit Canadian conservation group that has a mandate to protect some of the country's most significant natural spaces.

The Rotarians' guest, Joel Bonin, is the NCC's associate vice-president for development and communications for the Quebec region, and has championed the conservation of nature for the past 25 years.

A biologist by profession with extensive knowledge of reptiles and amphibians in southern Quebec, Bonin has overseen more than 300 bio-diversity conservation projects in the province, leading to the protection of more than 300 square kilometres of territory.

During his presentation, he maintained that global warming is causing an increasing number of species from southern Quebec to move north of where they normally would be by around 100 kilometres.

"This is all linked to climate change,"



Nature Conservancy of Canada's associate vice-president for development and communications Joel Bonin delivered the NCC's message to the Rotary Club of Westmount during the service organization's webcast gathering on Wednesday September 22.

he said. "Essentially, research is showing that species are moving north in various ways, in various corridors, depending on where the nature is suitable for them to establish new communities further away."

He maintained they are moving north because of the deteriorating condition of the planet's environment.

"Some of the species that were limited by a heavy winter [are] now able to live further north," said Bonin. "All that is required is that we adapt and that we do provide a welcoming landscape for those natural species, especially east of the Great Lakes."

Bonin said a team of scientists at the Nature Conservancy of Canada is looking at all migratory corridors coast to coast in the most crowded part of the country, which is the south, in order to determine priorities and the proper actions to take.

He said the NCC is in the process of setting new goals in order to meet the challenge of protecting 30 percent of the landscape in Canada by the year 2030.

## Temporary on Mt. Stephen



These "super" mail boxes are on Sherbrooke St. at Mt. Stephen, as seen October 1. Canada Post floated the idea of delivering all of the country's mail through this type of installation in 2013, but it has remained a dormant idea since 2018. The boxes are presumably being used here due to the re-construction of Mt. Stephen's roadway by the city.

PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.

## Still locked down on Metcalfe



This house on Metcalfe Ave. at Melbourne, seen September 30, is still "locked down" almost a year after the *Independent's* last published photo of it (see "Locked-down house?" October 27, 2020, p. RE-17). There is turning out to be an odd symmetry between this construction work and pandemic restrictions.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.





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**ÉLECTION GÉNÉRALE MUNICIPALE  
MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION  
LE 7 NOVEMBRE 2021 - NOVEMBER 7, 2021**



**AVIS PUBLIC AUX PERSONNES NON DOMICILIÉES  
DANS LA MUNICIPALITÉ**

**AVIS PUBLIC** est, par la présente, donné par le soussigné, Me François Peter-Edmond Rivard, président d'élection :

**A. Aux propriétaires uniques d'un immeuble et aux occupant(e)s uniques d'un établissement d'entreprise, qui n'ont pas déjà le droit d'être inscrit(e)s sur la liste électorale comme personne domiciliée, que vous pouvez être inscrit(e)s sur la liste électorale pour l'élection générale municipale en cours en respectant les conditions indiquées ci-dessous :**

1. être propriétaire unique d'un immeuble ou occupant(e) unique d'un établissement d'entreprise, situé sur le territoire de la Ville de Westmount depuis au moins douze (12) mois, le 1er septembre 2021, et, à cette date, avoir la citoyenneté canadienne, ne pas être en curatelle et ne pas avoir été déclaré(e) coupable, au cours des cinq (5) dernières années, d'une infraction constituant une manœuvre électorale frauduleuse;
2. avoir transmis à l'adresse indiquée plus bas, une demande d'inscription sur la liste électorale (formulaire SMRC-9.2) afin qu'elle soit reçue au plus tard le lundi 25 octobre 2021 à 17 h 30;
3. au jour du scrutin, soit le 7 novembre 2021, être majeur(e).

**B. Aux copropriétaires indivis d'un immeuble et aux cooccupant(e)s d'un établissement d'entreprise, qui n'ont pas le droit d'être inscrit(e)s sur la liste électorale comme personne domiciliée, propriétaire unique d'un immeuble ou occupant(e) unique d'un établissement d'entreprise, que vous pouvez être inscrit(e)s sur la liste électorale pour l'élection générale municipale en cours en respectant les conditions indiquées ci-dessous :**

1. être copropriétaire indivis d'un immeuble ou cooccupant(e) d'un établissement d'entreprise situé sur le territoire de la Ville de Westmount depuis au moins douze (12) mois le 1er septembre 2021 et, à cette date, avoir la citoyenneté canadienne, ne pas être en curatelle et ne pas avoir été déclaré(e) coupable, au cours des cinq (5) dernières années, d'une infraction constituant une manœuvre électorale frauduleuse;
2. avoir été désigné(e) au moyen d'une procuration (formulaire SMRC-9.1) signée par la majorité des copropriétaires ou cooccupant(e)s qui sont des électeurs(-rices) au 1er septembre 2021;
3. avoir transmis à l'adresse indiquée plus bas cette procuration afin qu'elle soit reçue au plus tard le lundi 25 octobre 2021 à 17 h 30;
4. au jour du scrutin, soit le 7 novembre 2021, être majeur(e).

**PRENEZ ÉGALEMENT NOTE QUE :**

- o Vous pouvez obtenir le formulaire requis (demande d'inscription ou procuration) en communiquant avec le président d'élection aux coordonnées indiquées plus bas;
- o La demande d'inscription ou la procuration reçue après le dimanche 3 octobre 2021, mais au plus tard le lundi 25 octobre 2021 à 17 h 30 sera considérée comme une demande de modification à la liste électorale;
- o Toute personne inscrite sur la liste électorale à un autre titre que celui de personne domiciliée peut formuler une demande écrite (courriel ou poste) au président d'élection pour voter par correspondance. À cette fin, vous pouvez remplir la section appropriée du formulaire de demande d'inscription ou de procuration. Ces personnes ont jusqu'au mercredi 27 octobre 2021 à 16 h 30 pour formuler une telle demande;
- o La demande d'inscription, la procuration ou la demande de vote par correspondance reste valide jusqu'à ce qu'elle soit remplacée ou retirée. Si vous souhaitez remplacer ou retirer une demande d'inscription, une procuration ou une demande de vote par correspondance existante, veuillez communiquer avec le président d'élection.

**Bureau du président d'élection**

4333, rue Sherbrooke O, Westmount QC H3Z 1E2  
Téléphone : 514 989-5280 • Courriel : elections@westmount.org

DONNÉ à Westmount, le 5 octobre 2021.

Me François Peter-Edmond Rivard  
Président d'élection

**PUBLIC NOTICE TO PERSONS NOT DOMICILED  
IN THE MUNICIPALITY**

**PUBLIC NOTICE** is hereby given by the undersigned, Me François Peter-Edmond Rivard, returning officer:

**A. To sole owners of an immovable and sole occupants of a business establishment, who are not already entitled to be entered on the list of electors as a domiciled person, that you may be entered on the list of electors for the current municipal general election by complying with the conditions listed below:**

1. being the sole owner of an immovable or sole occupant of a business establishment, located within the City of Westmount for at least twelve (12) months, on September 1, 2021, and on that date, being a Canadian citizen, not under curatorship and not having been convicted, within the last five (5) years, of an offence constituting a corrupt electoral practice;
2. having sent an application for registration on the list of electors (form SMRC-9.2) to the address indicated below so that it is received not later than 5:30 p.m. on Monday, October 25, 2021;
3. on polling day, November 7, 2021, being of full age.

**B. To undivided co-owners of an immovable and co-occupants of a business establishment, who are not entitled to be entered on the list of electors as a domiciled person, sole owner of an immovable or sole occupant of a business establishment, that you may be entered on the list of electors for the current municipal general election by complying with the conditions listed below:**

1. being an undivided co-owner of an immovable or co-occupant of a business establishment located within the City of Westmount for at least twelve (12) months as of September 1, 2021 and, on that date, being a Canadian citizen, not under curatorship and not having been convicted, within the last five (5) years, of an offence constituting a corrupt electoral practice;
2. having been designated by means of a power of attorney (form SMRC-9.1) signed by a majority of the co-owners or co-occupants who are electors on September 1, 2021;
3. having transmitted this power of attorney to the address indicated below so that it is received not later than 5:30 p.m. on Monday, October 25, 2021;
4. on election day, November 7, 2021, being of full age.

**PLEASE FURTHER NOTE THAT:**

- o You may obtain the required form (application for registration or power of attorney) by contacting the returning officer using the contact information listed below;
- o An application for registration or power of attorney received after Sunday, October 3, 2021, but not later than 5:30 p.m. on October 25, 2021, will be considered as an application to amend the list of electors;
- o Every person who is registered on the list of electors in a capacity other than domiciled may make a written request (email or mail) to the returning officer to vote by mail. To do so, you may complete the appropriate section of the application for registration or power of attorney. Such persons have until Wednesday, October 27, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. to make such a request;
- o The application for registration, power of attorney, or request to vote by mail remains valid until replaced or withdrawn. If you wish to replace or withdraw an existing application for registration, power of attorney, or request to vote by mail, please contact the returning officer.

**Office of the returning officer**

4333 Sherbrooke St. W, Westmount QC H3Z 1E2  
Phone: 514 989-5280 • Email: elections@westmount.org

ISSUED at Westmount, on October 5, 2021.

Me François Peter-Edmond Rivard  
Returning Officer



Photos of Churchill, Castro, Kennedys

# Hat trick at MMFA: Voices, Karsh and a volcano



## City Views

VERONICA READGRAVE

There are three fabulous must-see shows at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (MMFA) this fall.

Chief curator at the MMFA Mary-Dailey Desmarais curated *How long does it take for one voice to reach another?*, launching it at a press preview with Iris Amizley, community engagement and projects, and artist Stanley Février, whose work recently acquired by the MMFA is part of the exhibition.

### Karsh's photos

Also showing is *The World of Yousuf Karsh Private Essence*, curated by Hilliard T. Goldfarb, senior curator – collections, and curator of Old Masters, MMFA. The 111 photographs by the world-renowned portraitist include luminaries such as Winston Churchill, Fidel Castro and the Kennedys as well as iconic figures of Quebec and Canadian culture.

### Kjartansson show

And take time out to see the new show by Icelandic artist Ragnar Kjartansson, *Death is Elsewhere*. The immersive video-graphic installation plunges the viewer into the pristine beauty of Iceland's countryside through footage taken under the midnight sun on a cold summer's night in the shadow of the Laki volcano. The 77-minute projection offers a meditation on love, death and human relationships through song.

For information on tickets and Museum hours [mbam.qc.ca](http://mbam.qc.ca).



From left, Mary-Dailey Desmarais, chief curator of the MMFA, Stanley Février, artist (his work, "Yes, We Love You," was recently acquired by the MMFA and is part of the exhibition *How long does it take for one voice to reach another?*) and Iris Amizley, community engagement and projects – conservation at the MMFA.

## We welcome your letters

We welcome your letters but reserve the right to choose and edit them. Please limit to 300 words and submit before Friday 10 am to be considered for publication the following week.

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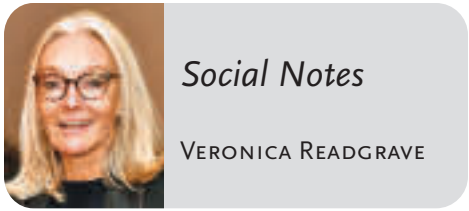
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# Summer golf for CHW, Myra’s summer camp

On a fair-ish July day, Canadian Hadas-sah-WIZO (CHW) held the 47th Annual Pro-Am For Kids Golf Tournament at Elm Ridge Country Club. (Last year’s had been postponed due to COVID.)

The Pro-Am For Kids partners with the PGA du Québec to recruit professional golfers for the event. Each team of three

amateur players is matched with a pro to complete their foursome. The pros com-pete for a \$10,000 prize purse.

In keeping with distancing restrictions, Elm Ridge offered participants a boxed breakfast. The cocktail after the tournam-ent was also in a take-away box but the majority of the players stayed to munch on the assorted Asian treats while reminiscing about their game.

On the course during the day, players enjoyed Schwartz’s smoked meat sand-wiches and Cavallaro pizza as well as

BBQ’d kosher hot dogs from C & C Pack-ing, sliders and Wilensky specials.

Volunteers at the par 3s distributed “Landing on the Green” prizes sponsored by Café Mercanti, Dunn’s, Schwartz’s, TCBY, St. Viateur Bagel and MTL Bagel.

The fun day raised over \$200,000 in support of CHW Hadassim and the Myra’s Kids Foundation summer camp, a free non-denominational bereavement camp for children and teenagers (ages 6 to 17) grieving the death of a parent or sibling.

The foundation also offers counseling

services throughout the year for these children and teenagers and their families.

CHW Hadassim is an international resi-dential school that supports young people, many financially, socially, and educationally disadvantaged, to reach their full potential.

Event co-chairs were **Gary Hutman**, president Cellcom Communications; **Jo-seph Balinsky** of Ballin, a leading North American manufacturer of men’s pants and shorts; and **Danny Kaufer**, labour law-yer at Borden Ladner Ger- vais (BLG).

*continued on p. 34*



Left, Co-chairs Joseph Balinsky, Gary Hutman and Danny Kanfor. Centre, Sarah Hutman, Harriet Star, Marcy Segall and Adele Balinsky. Right, Rob Soiferman, Alana Shiveck and husband Stuart Shiveck with pro Billy Houle.



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## Chez Doris kicks off ‘Day & Night’ campaign



From left, Paul Marchand, François Carrier, Elizabeth Wirth, Carole Croteau, Marina Boulos-Winton and Nathalie Goulet.

Chez Doris held a media event in the Peace Garden of Dawson College on September 14.

Executive director and Westmounter Marina Boulos-Winton announced the public launch of the organization’s major fundraising campaign, Chez Doris, Day & Night, asking Quebecers to donate generously towards long-term solutions for women in Montreal who are living in precarious circumstances or experiencing homelessness.

To date, 86 percent of its \$15-million objective has been raised, thanks to many private donors as well as the support of three levels of government.

Chez Doris, Day & Night hopes to become one of the most diversified centres in Quebec in terms of services offered, housing solutions, locations and clients served.

Funds will be put toward building and managing two new essential points of service in 2022: a 22-bed emergency night shelter to offer up to 8,030 overnight stays for homeless women per year, and a permanent residence with 26 studio apartments near Notre Dame Hospital.

Between April 2020 and March 2021, Chez Doris served more than 875 unique homeless women, a 100-percent increase in its homeless clientele compared to pre-

COVID-19 data, when typically 400 were served.

Co-presidents of the campaign are Elizabeth Wirth, president, M.F. Wirth Rail Corp. and François Carrier, head Investment Banking & Co-Head of Capital Markets, Desjardins Capital Markets.

Present were Carole Croteau, Chez Doris board president; Paul Marchand, executive director Doggone Foundation and Nathalie Goulet, city of Montreal executive committee member responsible for social inclusion, sports and recreation, the status of women, homelessness and youth. – VR

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Social notes, cont'd from p. 33

Hard-working committee members were Westmounters David Balinsky and Joseph Kaback, as well as Joe Akerman, Ronald Balinsky, Lewis Cooper, Louis Grossbaum, Mickey Guttman, David Mars, Jon Reider, Stuart Schick, Joe Sklar and Steve Williams.

Westmounters present included George Reinitz, Greg Mitelman, Allan Hitelman, Sonny Merovitz, Bernie Fersten, Barry Cohen, Andrew Schwartz, Andrew Leutner, and volunteer Cheryl Sokoloff.

Other guests included Alana and Stuart Shiveck, Rob Soiferman, and volunteers Harriet Star, Marcy Segall, Adele Balinsky.





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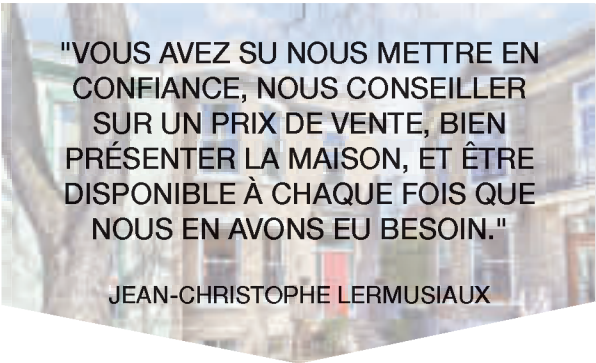
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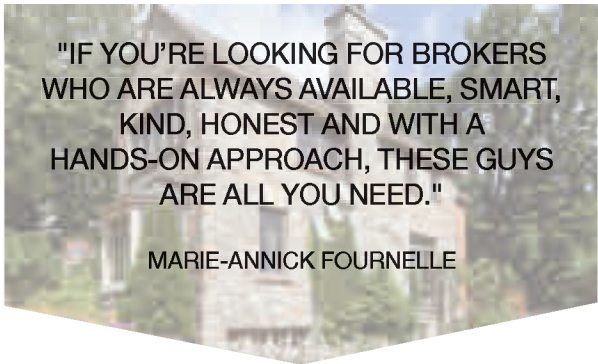
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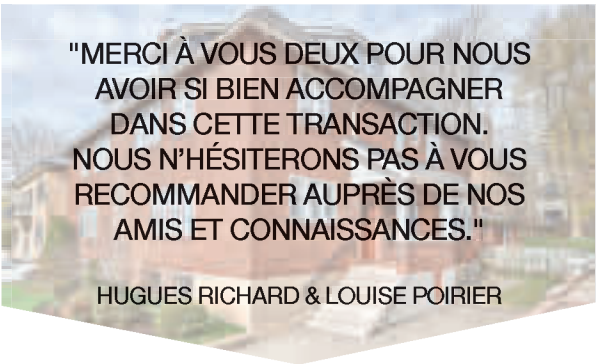
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